



# Grocers/Retailers

- **Does this bill require me to become a redemption center?**
  - ◇ Grocers/retailers will only be required to be a redemption center if there is not one within 1 mile (densely populated areas) or 3 miles (other than densely populated areas). However, if hardship can be proven, the director may waive the requirement. Retailers may also choose to subcontract with a permitted redemption center. The State and counties may also establish a center if an appropriate retailer is unable to provide one.
- **I am a small store; do I have to provide a redemption center?**
  - ◇ No. If your store has less than 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of interior space, you will not be required to provide a redemption center.
- **Will this bill increase my costs?**
  - ◇ Deposit beverage distributors initiate the 2¢ handling fee and 5¢ deposit. This cost will in all likelihood be passed to retailers. If you pass this cost on to the consumer, there will be no increase in your costs. Since the consumer can recover 5¢ by redeeming an empty container, this results in an additional cost to the consumer of only 2¢ per container.
- **Will I have to separate the containers by brand?**
  - ◇ No. Although some states have a beverage deposit program that requires retailers to separate by brand, the Hawaii bill does not.
- **How can this bill benefit my business?**
  - ◇ Providing a redemption center or a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) on your property will give customers an added incentive to patronize your store. As RVM's will issue vouchers rather than cash, customers must still enter the store to redeem the voucher, which can be printed with store coupons as an added incentive.



Reverse Vending Machines can help the redemption process



# Bars/Restaurants

- **Will I have to charge a 5¢ deposit to my customers for beverages consumed on the premises?**
  - ◇ No. The bar/restaurant pays the deposit to the distributor, but they are not required to pass it on to their customers. Bars/restaurants redeem the deposit value by returning the containers to a recycler or redemption center.
- **In order to redeem my containers, will I have to haul large amounts of containers or pay for a recycler to pick them up?**
  - ◇ Actually, the additional value of the containers will enable recycling companies to provide pickup service. Most bars and restaurants already have glass collection funded by the glass Advance Disposal Fee; the bill will enable this program to expand to include plastic and aluminum containers.
- **I have a high volume of containers; will I have to count them all to get my deposit back?**
  - ◇ No. For large volumes, redemption can be calculated by weight so that counting containers would not be necessary.
- **Is there a deposit charge on wine and spirits?**
  - ◇ No. A deposit beverage is defined as beer, ale, or other drink produced by fermenting malt, mixed spirits, mixed wine, tea and coffee drinks regardless of dairy derived product content, soda, non-carbonated water, and all nonalcoholic drinks in liquid form intended for human consumption and contained in a deposit beverage container.
- **Will the Advance Disposal Fee still remain for containers not covered under the new beverage deposit system?**
  - ◇ Yes. All non-deposit beverage containers will still have ADF funds to cover the costs for recycling these containers.





# Recyclers

- **If I choose to operate a permitted redemption center, what will be required?**
  - ◇ You must be permitted by the Department of Health and will be required to collect, transport, process, and market deposit beverage containers.
- **I am already a permitted recycler in Hawaii, but I do not handle all the materials collected under the bill. If I choose to operate a redemption center, will I have to accept all containers covered in the bill?**
  - ◇ Yes. The bill requires that redemption centers accept all glass, plastic, and aluminum deposit beverage containers. However, the handling fee provided under this bill will allow recyclers to expand the types of materials they collect, including those that which are not currently cost-effective.
- **Is the 2¢ handling fee per container going to be enough to cover costs?**
  - ◇ The combination of the handling fee, additional funding from unredeemed deposits, and the value of the recyclables has been assessed as sufficient to cover the cost of processing the materials.
- **I operate in an area where distance makes it more expensive for my operations. Will there be additional funding to help me with these additional costs?**
  - ◇ Yes. The funds collected from the bill will be used to assist with the collection, transporting, processing, and marketing of deposit beverage containers, particularly in remote locations.
- **Do I have to keep the containers separated by brand?**
  - ◇ No. Although some states have a beverage deposit program that requires retailers to separate by brand, the Hawaii bill does not.





# Consumers

- **Will this bill cause my beverages to be more expensive?**
  - ◇ In addition to the refundable 5¢ per container deposit, distributors are required to pay a non-refundable 2¢ handling fee per deposit beverage container, which they have the option of passing on to the consumer as part of the product cost. Therefore, consumers could see an additional 2¢ per beverage, or 12¢ total on a six-pack. If consumers choose not to redeem the 5¢ deposit, the added cost would be 7¢ per container or 42¢ for a 6-pack.
- **Will it cause an increase in the price of my other groceries?**
  - ◇ No. The 2¢ handling fee has been assessed to cover the costs of supporting redemption operations, collection, handling, transportation and administration. There may be additional funding available from unredeemed 5¢ deposits to provide further assistance for recyclers. If a retailer chooses to contract with a recycler rather than operate as a redemption center, an effective partnership should preclude the need for additional storage space or staff; therefore, retailers would not have additional costs to pass on to the consumer.
- **Will I be charged a deposit on beverages I consume at bars or restaurants?**
  - ◇ No. Since the containers will remain on the premises, the bar/restaurant will pay the deposit and be eligible to redeem it.
- **How will I find a redemption center?**
  - ◇ The bill requires all retail establishments that sell deposit beverages to place signs identifying the nearest redemption center.
- **How far will I have to go to find a redemption center?**
  - ◇ The bill requires the establishment of a redemption center within 1 mile for urban areas and three miles for rural areas.

